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FM AMEMBASSY BEIJING
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8163
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL SHANGHAI
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMCONSUL SHENYANG
AMCONSUL GUANGZHOU
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMCONSUL CHENGDU

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 BEIJING 029894

DEPT PLEASE PASS REPRESENTATIVE GLICKMAN

E.O.12356:DECL:OADR
TAGS: PHUM, PREL, XE, CH
SUBJECT: CODEL GLICKMAN AUGUST 17 MEETING WITH NPC
FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE: TIBET AND PROLIFERATION

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.
2. SUMMARY: HUMAN RIGHTS AND PROLIFERATION ISSUES DOMINATED THE DISCUSSION DURING CODEL GLICKMAN'S AUGUST 17 MEETING WITH CHINA'S NATIONAL PEOPLES' CONGRESS FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE. CONGRESSWOMAN

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NANCY PELOSI EXPRESSED U.S. AND CONGRESSIONAL CONCERN OVER HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN CHINA, ESPECIALLY IN TIBET. SHE PASSED A COPY OF ASIA WATCH'S LIST OF CHINESE PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE TO THE COMMITTEE. COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ZHU LIANG ACCEPTED THE LIST, BUT DENIED THERE WERE PEOPLE IN CHINA IMPRISONED FOR THEIR BELIEFS. HE SAID THAT THE CODEL SHOULD GO TO TIBET AND HEAR BOTH SIDES OF THE STORY TO GET THE TRUE PICTURE. THE TWO SIDES DISCUSSED THE PROBLEM OF ARMS PROLIFERATION. THE CHINESE STRESSED THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE SPREAD OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. THE CHINESE CLAIMED THEY HAVE NEVER EXPORTED CHEMICAL WEAPONS AND THAT THE CARGO SHIP "YIN HE" DID NOT CARRY CHEMICAL WEAPONS PRECURSORS. END SUMMARY.

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PARTICIPANTS

3. U.S. PARTICIPANTS INCLUDED REP. DAN GLICKMAN (D-KS), REP. NORMAN DICKS (D-WA), REP. NANCY PELOSI (D-CA), AND REP. RICHARD DURBIN (D-IL). ALSO ATTENDING FROM THE U.S. WERE THE DCM, POLOFF (NOTETAKER) AND CONGRESSIONAL STAFF MEMBERS. NATIONAL PEOPLES' CONGRESS (NPC) FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ZHU LIANG AND OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS COMPRISED THE CHINESE SIDE.

HUMAN RIGHTS

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4. CONGRESSWOMAN NANCY PELOSI STATED THE U.S. IN GENERAL AND CONGRESS IN PARTICULAR IS CONCERNED OVER HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES IN CHINA, ESPECIALLY IN REGARD TO THOSE INCARCERATED FOR THEIR RELIGIOUS BELIEFS AND FOR TRYING TO ENGAGE IN FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION AND OF THE PRESS. IN ADDITION, CONGRESS IS VERY CONCERNED OVER THE MAINTENANCE OF THE TIBETAN PEOPLE'S CULTURE.

5. REP. PELOSI ASSERTED THAT ALTHOUGH THE U.S. AND CHINA HAVE BEEN WORKING TO RESOLVE TRADE DIFFERENCES AND PROBLEMS REGARDING ARMS PROLIFERATION, PROGRESS ON HUMAN RIGHTS HAS LAGGED. SHE OFFERED TO GIVE THE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE A COPY OF THE ASIA WATCH LIST OF CHINESE PRISONERS OF CONSCIENCE, A COPY OF PRESIDENT CLINTON'S EXECUTIVE ORDER ON MFN, AND A DOCUMENT EXPLAINING HOW THE LIST RELATES TO MFN.

6. NPC FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ZHU LIANG RESPONDED WITH A RECITATION OF TIBETAN HISTORY, UNDERSCORING THAT TIBET HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERED A PART OF CHINA. HE ADDED THAT DEVELOPING COUNTRIES AND DEVELOPED COUNTRIES HAVE DIFFERENT STANDARDS OF HUMAN RIGHTS, BECAUSE ALL PEOPLE NEED TO ACHIEVE THE FIRST BASIC HUMAN RIGHT, THE RIGHT TO SUBSISTENCE AND DEVELOPMENT. NO ONE IN CHINA WAS INCARCERATED FOR HIS OR HER BELIEFS, AND LISTS OF SUCH ALLEGED PRISONERS HAVE BEEN FOUND TO HAVE NAMES OF PEOPLE ON THEM WHO HAVE NEVER BEEN IN JAIL.

7. ALTHOUGH LAUDED IN THE WEST AS A CHAMPION OF HUMAN RIGHTS, THE DALAI LAMA, ZHU CLAIMED, ONCE OWNED SERFS.

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HE SAID THAT PRE-1949 TIBET WAS A FEUDAL SOCIETY, MORE
SAVAGE AND BACKWARD THAN EUROPE IN THE MIDDLE AGES.
THE TIBETAN PEOPLE BENEFITED FROM THEIR LIBERATION,
AND THE POPULATION, WHICH REMAINED STATIC FOR 600
YEARS, HAS DOUBLED SINCE 1949.

8. ZHU DECRIED THE FACT THAT THE CODEL'S VISIT WAS SO
SHORT. HE WISHED THAT THEY COULD VISIT TIBET AND
STRESSED THE NEED TO HEAR BOTH SIDES OF AN ISSUE IN
ORDER TO FORM A CLEAR PICTURE. HE SAID, OUT OF
POLITENESS, HE WOULD ACCEPT THE CONGRESSWOMAN'S
DOCUMENTATION.

9. CONGRESSWOMAN PELOSI SAID SHE WANTED THE HUMAN
RIGHTS OF THE TIBETAN PEOPLE SAFE
GUARDED NO MATTER WHO
WAS IN CHARGE AND HOPED THAT THE DIGNITY AND VALUE OF

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EVERY HUMAN BEING WOULD BE RESPECTED IN THE FUTURE.
SHE EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO GO TO TIBET AND SAID SHE DID
WANT TO HEAR CHINA'S SIDE OF THE STORY. SHE ASKED ZHU
TO CHECK THE ASIA WATCH LIST AND LET HER KNOW OF ANY
DISCREPANCIES.

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PROLIFERATION

10. CONGRESSMAN GLICKMAN EXPRESSED U.S. OPPOSITION TO
THE SPREAD OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION, INCLUDING
NUCLEAR, BIOLOGICAL, AND CHEMICAL WEAPONS AS WELL AS
THE MISSILE SYSTEMS USED TO DELIVER THEM. THE U.S.
SIDE EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR CHINA'S HELP REGARDING
NORTH KOREA AND NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION. IN ADDITION,
THE U.S. SIDE ASKED THE CHINESE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION
CLARIFYING REPORTS THAT CHINA HAD SOLD MISSILES TO
PAKISTAN.

11. ZHU SAID CHINA WAS VERY CAUTIOUS IN ITS WEAPONS'
SALES. CHINA ONLY SOLD WEAPONS WHICH WERE TO BE USED
FOR THE SELF-DEFENSE OF THE PURCHASER AND WOULD NOT
DISRUPT REGIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY. ALSO, CHINA
NEVER INTERFERED IN THE INTERNAL AFFAIRS OF ANOTHER
NATION UNDER THE PRETEXT OF ARMS SALES. LAST YEAR THE
U.S. SOLD MORE ARMS TO THE THIRD WORLD THAN ANY OTHER
NATION, ABOUT USD 13 BILLION. CHINA, HOWEVER, SOLD
ONLY USD 100 MILLION WORTH OF WEAPONS, WHICH WAS FAR
DOWN THE LIST, BEHIND MUCH SMALLER NATIONS SUCH AS
ISRAEL.

12. ZHU STRESSED CHINA'S OPPOSITION TO THE SPREAD OF
WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. CHINA HAD NO CHEMICAL
WEAPONS AND DID NOT EXPORT CHEMICAL WEAPONS. HE ALSO
REITERATED PREVIOUS CHINESE STATEMENTS THAT THE CARGO
VESSEL "YIN HE" DID NOT CARRY CHEMICAL WEAPONS

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PRECURSORS. HE CHARACTERIZED CHINA AS BEING PLEASED
ABOUT THE RELAXATION OF TENSIONS ON THE KOREAN
PENINSULA.

13. THIS CABLE WAS CLEARED BY CODEL GLICKMAN.
ROY

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a
*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL